QUALITY NOT QUANTITY

The Chatham Chatter

PRICE 2c
A YEAR 20c

Published by The Milk-Weed Printing Company at Chatham, Mass.

VOL. 3 NO. 9 Chatham, Mass. September 18, 1939

STORM LASHES CAPE; ORLEANS COAST GUARD STATION STRUCK BY LIGHTENING

Wind And Heavy Rains Sweep Mid-Cape

A heavy electrical storm accompanied by heavy wind and rain struck the Cape on the 17th. Here in Chatham little damage was done although heavy seas stirred up the water considerably. The Orleans Coast Guard Station was struck by lightening. Coast Guardsmen smelled something burning in one of the upper rooms and rushed to find several pairs of boots on fire in the room where the lightening had struck. The entire wiring of the station was burnt out.

Several houses were struck by lightening on the Cape but Orleans received the brunt of the storm. This is the 2nd storm within a week reminding many of the hurricane of Sept. 1938.

A Few Short Years Ago

continued

Leaving the sail loft we go across the road to the shore of the Mill Pond. con. col. 3

Marine Column

The winners for this seasons racing at the S.H.Y.C. were:

Class A. Mrs. M. Maclay
Corsairs Dave Kennedy
Catabouts Fritz Hovey
Class B. Mac. McAlpin
Interclubs Howdie Meincke. Ladies Series, Connie Mather- Children's series Dave Haller- Shipshape Prize Ellen Fuller- Seasmanship Mac McAlpin- Children's Series (Bottlecats) Mac McAlpin.

A sloop went aground Sept.13, off Eckers lighthouse. They came from the Bush Buoy straight to the first light house buoy, and ran on the flat. The coast Guard had to wait until high tide to pull them off.

Sept. 10, an English Freighter went by Monomoy Point all camouflaged. A Coast Guard destroyer was patroling Monomoy Beach, the 11 and 12th. Most of the fleet of Catabouts etc. are put away for the winter. The grounds of the S.H.Y.C. con. p. 5.

By Ellen Fuller

Arthur Vessey Drowns

Well Know Former Resident Of Chatham Dies in Woods Hole

Arthur Vessey well known and popular assistant manager at the Econony Store in Chatham until about a year and a half ago, was drowned in Woods Hole on September 2nd. Mr. Vessey graduate of Chatham High School left Chatham to take a position in the Econony store in Falmouth. The body was recovered on the 12th. continued page 3.

A Few Short Years Ago

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There we see a snug little harbor filled with white sails, in the early morning, getting up anchor to go fishing, scalloping, etc.

As we walk along the shore we see a lot of small shanties with men hurring around, building fires, and preparing to cut out scallops for market. No restrictions put u on a man taking all h wanted. con.page 2

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Society

by A.B. Gilbert

Many of the summer residents have left town. Justice Louis D. Brandeis left on the 10th. The Cobb Family left on the 9th and the Rodger's on the 10th. The McAlpin's and Fessenden's were among those leaving on Monday the 11th . Commodore Hovey of the S.H.Y.C. returned to his winter home on the 10th. Others leaving recently were the Maclays and Haller's. Many end of the summer parties were held.

Representative Edwin Eldredge's daughter has left for Bryant College in Providence R.I.

Housing

Mr. Hitch of New York City, is constructing a house on Cross St. near the residents of the Howes Brothers.

The house that contains the Sign of The Motor Car in Dennis has been moved to North Chatham.

The Chatter has just learned that Mr. Stewart Crocker a business executive in the General Electric Corporation, has purchased the Old Mill. Mr. Crockher resides in So Yarmouth in the summer time.

Auto Accident On Main Street

A serious collision in front of the Jenny Gas Station on Main St. took place on the 13th. A car operated by Joseph Souza was coming our of the Jenny Station when Mrs. Walter Trowbridge's car coming along Main street collided with him. Both cars were smashed up considerably. None of the occupants of the cars were injured.

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Mr. Chase is building a house in the village.

Mr. Henry Howes has purchased some land between Journey's End and Hiawatha on Cross street and according to reports they will begin building operations on a guest house in the near future.

Mr. Robert Sayles has purchased one of Mr. Perry Walton's houses off Champlain Road near Stage Harbor. He is now working on extensive renovations.

The Monomoy Theatre closed its season on September 2nd after eight weeks of summer plays. Plans are already being worked on for next season. A surprise party was given Miss Mary Winslow, producer, the last day.

Modern Theatre Joins Interstate

Yesterday the Modern Theatre of Harwichport joined the Interstate Theatre group. A new publication, The Mid-Cape movies news will now report the movie news from both Chatham and Harwich. Interstate officials announce that alterations of the Modern Theatre are planned for the future.

Convention At Bars Inn

A Convention of the Southward Co. of West Springfield Mass. was held at the Bars Inn beginning on the 15th and ending on the 17th. An extensive program of activities took place. The Inn closed for the season on the 17th. This is the latest that it has been opened for many years.

A Few Short Years Ago

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All sail boats with small hand dredges. Two men to a boat mostly and two cutting out at the shanty.

Entering the shanty you would see a small store, a large bin filled with scollops, and butter tubs used as containers.

Filling the container with 5 gal. each they were shipped to market plainly marked "Cape Cod Scollops" to assure

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A Few Short Years Ago

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Passing the scollop houses we soon come to men in small dories with long handle rakes, raking quohaugs, a shell fish very much in demand.

These formed the principal occupation, for the Cape people winters and springs.

No power boats in these days just sail and wind.

It was surprising how they made good time and were in with their fish almost as regular in landing, as in these modern times. A. Friend

(To Be Continued)

Arthur Vessey Drowns

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The accident occurred while the row boat in which he and his friends were in was tipped over in a strong current while being towed by a motor boat. Those who were watching at the time reported that he went down immediately. Mrs. Haven of the Wayside Inn where he resided when in Chatham brought his body to Chatham on the 12 th, and funeral services were held at the Methodist Church the following day. Rev. Paul Q. Brooks officiated. Many of the stores in town were closed during the services.

Chatham's Tax Rate

Although it was generally expected that Chatham's Tax rate would favorably compare with points elsewhere, it was nevertheless gratifying to see it continue to reduce not merely a few cents but three dollars per thousand.

Just what does this mean to a small home owner whose dwelling, Garage and land let us say is assessed $3000.

In 1936 the tax would have been $75.90. In 1937---$72 .00

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Communication

Sir:

I noticed in a recent issue of your paper (Aug. 17) an editorial criticizing the New Haven Railroad forthe threatened shut-down of the line out to Cape Cod. It seems to me the piece was written more from a desire to attack the Railroad than from information on the subject. Do you not know that the competition of passenger and freight carrying motors theatens to ruin the railroads? It would be better to campaign for an effort on the part of government to make a more just system of taxation so that the freight trucks would bear their fair share. They are a nuisance on the roads to drivers and because of their noise, to those who live in houses on the Main thoroughfares - It would be far better for the freight to be carried by the railroads, as formerly. If these comparatively lightly taxed vehicles ruin the railroads, it will be a great tragedy.

I hope you will be good enough to print this letter.

Very truly yours
Elizabeth I. Toms

Bass River Mass. August 31, 1939

Russia invades Poland August 18th.

Worthing Kennels won ten out of a possible 12 prizes at the Brockton Fair Pet Show.

We made a midnight tour of Chatham recently. [illegible] Results- An article for the next issue.

The Chatham Theatre will go on its winter schedue from now on. Matinee Sunday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday. Evenings 1 show 7:45 every night but Tuesday and Thursday.

Repairs have been finished near the Little Tavern on Shore Road.

THE CHATHAM CHATTER
Published by the Milk Weed Printing Company every two weeks in the summer and every two months in the winter and printed in Chatham, Mass.
Affiliated with the National Amateur Press Association and The American Amateur Press Association.
Subscription Rates:

Chatham 1 year	20¢	2 yrs.	30¢	½ Yr 10¢
Cape Cod " "	30¢	" "	50¢	" 15¢
U.S.A. " "	40¢	" "	70¢	" 20¢

A years subscription includes ten or eleven issues. This paper is published for fun of it and the money charged is used to pay expenses.

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The CHATTER now enters its winter schedule with a Chatter every two months. The first Chatter will be two months from now in November. Next in January, then March, and thenin June. Contributions excepted.

The War

A question that comes to many peoples minds now that World War Number II is in progress is who is justified and who is responsible for this war. As our President says "We can remain neutrals but we can not remain neutrals in mind" therefore all Americans will decide in their own mind who is responsible for this great world catastrophe.

When we study this question let us think back a year or more to the rise of the present difficulties. Thepact of Munich, that pact that was denounced as a betrayal of the Czechs was violated by Germany four months later and disregarding his principle of taking only Germans into the Third Reich. Hitler took millions of Czechs into Germany in March '39. The betrayal of this pact has shown that Hitler knows no reason and as Prime Minister Chamberlain said, "He can be stopped with nothing but force". That action by Hitler and other facts proves that he will not abide by treaties and his recent attackupon Poland to free the Poles from Polish rules we suppose, proves that he knows nothing but force. Such a man can only be stopped by force. L.B.G.

The War In Europe

By Frank B. Gilbert

On the morning of Sept. 1, 1939 at 1:40 A.M. (E.D.S.T.) at 5:40 (British Time) Hitler marched his troops full blast into Poland. It was an undeclared war against Poland. The Poles were surprised greatly and lost ground very fast. Warsaw and many other important cities of Poland were bombed repeatedly. Britain and France were not going to stand like mummies because they had an allience with Poland. Britain and France both gave Hitler an ultimatum to withdraw troops from Poland or face the consequences. On 11 o'clock Sept. 3, (British Time) Britain declared war on Germany. France waited until 5 o'clock on the same day before declaring war. Though little advances have been made on the Western Front France is calling up allit's military

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The War In Europe

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might and the same with Britain. Few small gains were made by France on the Western Front. France is about to begin a big push. Britain made bombing raids on the German Naval Base at the Kiel Canal. A submarine sunk the British ship, Athenia off Scotland on Monday Sept.3. 128 people were killed. The disaster was blamed on Germany but she denies doing it. Many other ships were also sunk. They claim they damaged one battleship badly and another one slightly, at the German Naval Basd but Germany denies it. Britain also made one Pamphlet raids. Egypt has declared war upon Germany, it is very important because it will hem in the two main Italian Colonialpossessions Italian East Africa and Libya. Thus not aiding Italy if it enters the war. Allparts of the British Empire have declared war upon Germany. The steady advance on the Eastern Front by Germany was brought to a halt when the Poles made a last brave stand for their Capital. They dug in a few miles from Warsaw. The Northern Forces from East Prussia were about 30 miles from the capital but the Southern forces from Slovakia were near the suburbs of Warsaw. The rainy season is starting in Poland which is a great help to the Poles because the roads of Poland are bad the Poles have a very good cavalry. Soviet Russia is massing a lot of of troops near the Russo-Polish border. The Polish capital of Warsaw was moved to Lublin and then moved again. WILL SOVIET RUSSIA AND ITALY ENTER THE WAR AND WHAT ABOUT U.S. NEUTRALITY. WHAT WILL HAPPEN?

Chatham's Tax Rates

In 1938 --- $65.70 -- Now 1939 --- $56.70.

Yet during those 4 years of consistent reduction, the town has not curtailed any of its public services, but has even increased these in some instances, nor is there evidence of sudden increase of assessed valuations, on existing property.

The reductions have come from a gradual increase in new construction, and consequent rise in valuations on which tax base is determined, as well as careful cooperation of town officials and voters.

Part of the reduction in taxes was by transferring some of the town's large surplus to reducing the tax levy. Therefore credit should be also given officials of previous years as well as those of current years. Be that as it may, there are still many towns in this commonwealth who have had to boost their taxes several dollars per thousand several years in a row.

Chatham Taxpayers pay the lowest tax for a town so well provided with modern public services, and may well be the envy of communities throughout the nation. Taxes as now existing need be no detriment whatever to any prospective home owner desiring to locate his residents in Chatham. Samuel Freedman.

Marine Column

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are very officiently repairing the clubhouse.

Dave Kennedy was handed the keys to the Yacht Club by the ex-commodore Fritz Hovey. Dave was elected the Commodore for the season of 1940.

C.H.S. reopened Wednesday Sept. 6 with an increase in attendence.